



NORTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

6th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

GATHERING

Prelude

Be Strong in the Lord

arr. Anna Laura Page

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship — based on Matthew 18:20

Joyful is the sound we make again this morning!

For this Easter season liberates us from doubt and fear.

Thankful is the song we sing!

For this season moves us past darkness and despair.

Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

For this season awakens in us long-awaited new life.

Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ lives here and now.

He is among us at this and every moment!

May his peace and presence be known to you.

And also to you.

Let us worship God together this good Easter season Sunday!

Hymn #246

Christ is Alive!

CONFESSING

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and Merciful God,

you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all.

We confess that we have not always followed behind him

or acknowledged his blessed rule in our lives.

We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory.

Forgive us and raise us again from all sin,

that we may be your faithful people,

obeying the loving commands of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.

In his name, hear our prayers ...

Assurance of Mercy

*Response to Forgiveness #581

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

LISTENING

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Hymn #363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

Scripture Reading

John 14:15-21

Sermon

Easter: another Advocate for living the commandments

DEPARTING

Hymn #267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Benediction

Response

Northumbria Community

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

Postlude

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INFORMATION

Welcome to our guests!

If you are worshipping online with us for the first time, we are so thankful to have you watching. We hope that the word of God gives you peace and encouragement and you will plan to join us in person when we are able to reopen our doors for public gatherings.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Ralph welcomes and encourages opportunities to share in fellowship, pastoral conversation, and spiritual discernment. He keeps office hours most mornings at the church, but is always available by appointment. You are always welcome to call or text at 478-250-3355 or to reach out by email: pastorhawkins@northminstermacon.org

Lectionary Readings

May 17, 6th Sunday of Easter – Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 24, 7th Sunday of Easter – Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have a need or a request for prayer, please contact the church office at 477-6646, or you could join us at our prayer group that meets the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in Room 108.

Current Member Concerns: Ann R. Smith; Karen Jones; Jewel James; Riley Brown; Ann Hall; Jane Ebey; John Hurst; John Geerlings; Grace Goodwin; Edward Gleaton, Jr. & Family; Mary Ann Ellis; Kathy Wheeler; Andy Weaver

Current Friends and Family Concerns: Margaret Yawn; Donna Carole Kitchens; Nelda Crow; Katherine Crownover;

Military Personnel Prayer List: Austin Riley; T. Wright Goodwin, IV; James C. Watwood; Joshua Sulkers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The schedule for all Sunday events, including morning connections, worship, and yoga, will be evaluated on a weekly basis and publicized via email and Facebook. If you or someone you know is either not receiving the emails or need to receive a phone call with updates, please let Jennifer know (admin@northminstermacon.org or 478-477-6646)

40 Days of Easter Food Drive

Each non-Sunday day in the Easter season, beginning after Easter Sunday, add an item to a box for Loaves & Fishes and its ministry with our homeless and indigent neighbors here in Macon. When halfway or completely filled, bring your box to the church or contact the church office and we will send one of our older youth who drive out to your house to pick it up. Please be sure to only include food packaged in boxes, cans, or plastic containers. **Loaves and Fishes cannot accept glass non-perishables.** Items you can collect this week include:

Monday – canned beans

Wednesday – Package of Pasta

Friday – canned peas

Tuesday – Can of Pork & Beans

Thursday – box of au gratin potatoes

Saturday – canned lima beans

Puzzling Times

During these "puzzling times", several NPC members have enjoyed working on and swapping jigsaw puzzles. A collection of puzzles is being amassed at the church for YOU to enjoy!

They will be housed on shelves in the room next to Ralph's office. Feel free to borrow one at any time. If you would like to add to the collection, just drop the puzzles off at the church. When you complete one, please list your name/date on the inside of the box top. Enjoy!

Benjamin Gail – Welcome back drive-thru parade!

Our beloved sexton has been cleared by doctors to return to work! To celebrate, we'd like to host a welcome back drive-thru. Between 11:00-11:20 Monday morning, plan to drive into the church parking lot on the Riverside end (near the banners & mailbox), wave and honk to Benjamin, who will be standing outside, and exit the parking lot on the Forest Hill end (traffic will be flowing south). I'm sure he'll be so excited to see how much he has been missed and how thankful we are for his full recovery!

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our calling at Northminster is to make disciples, to grow in faith together, and to serve others in Christ.

CONGREGATION: Ministers of the Good News

SESSION of Ruling Elders: Sam Alderman, III; Boyd Ellison; Judy Hill; Ricky Smith; Ann Weaver; Emily Brown; Beau Kitchens; Lynn Denny; Charlotte Nolan; Sandra Ridgeway

RALPH HAWKINS, Pastor and Teaching Elder PAUL EVANS, Parish Associate

SANDRA SMITH, Music Director KAREN JONES, Clerk of Session

BENJAMIN GAIL, Sexton JENNIFER WHITEHEAD, Ministry Assistant

Office hours this week: Various